



#78B/104  
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Typed or Printed Name	Donna Macedo		
Signature	<i>Donna Macedo</i>	Date	1/30/03
<b>SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>  Address to: BOX SEQUENCE Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO BOX 2327 Arlington, VA 22202		Attorney Docket	CLON-056CIP
		First Named Inventor	TCHAGA, GRIGORIY S.
		Application Number	09/858,332
		Filing Date	May 15, 2001
		Confirmation Number	2176
		Group Art Unit	1652
		Examiner Name	KERR, KATHLEEN M.
		Title:	"METAL ION AFFINITY TAGS AND METHODS FOR USING THE SAME"

Sir:

In response to the communication mailed January 14, 2003 and prior to the examination of the above-referenced application on the merits, please enter the amendments below.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0060] with the following paragraph:

In some embodiments, a metal ion affinity peptide comprises a peptide of the formula:

(His-X<sub>1</sub>-X<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n1</sub>-(His-X<sub>3</sub>-X<sub>4</sub>-X<sub>5</sub>)<sub>n2</sub>-(His-X<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n3</sub>, (SEQ ID NO:21) wherein

each of X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> is independently an amino acid with an aliphatic or an amide side chain,

each of X<sub>3</sub>, X<sub>4</sub>, X<sub>5</sub> is independently an amino acid with a basic side chain (except His) or an acidic side chain,

each X<sub>6</sub> is an amino acid with an aliphatic or an amide side chain,

n1 and n2 are each independently 1-3, and n3 is 1-5.

Please replace paragraph [0062] with the following paragraph:

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